WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Malpractices in Neyveli Lignite Corporation

*66. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the malpractices prevalent in the Neyveli Lignite Corporation and if so, what are the details thereof; and

(b) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b) Government is aware of alleged fraudulent removal of goods like steel rods, cement and asbestos sheets from Neyveli Lignite Corporation. An offence under Sections 407, 420, 477 IPC has been registered with the local police and is now under investigation by CID Branch, Tamil Nadu. As a result of the enquiries made so far, eight employees of NLC have been placed under suspension and disciplinary proceedings have been started against these employees and three others. Memos have been issued to four officers calling for their explanation for not exercising proper check and control over their subordinates. Contracts of three contractors have been terminated and payments have been withheld.

Plan for developing renewable energy

*69. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Department of Non-conventional Energy Sources (DNES) has prepared a perspective plan for renewable energy;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a number of technologies in the field of renewable energy have become mature and have been found commercially viable in recent years;

(c) if so, what steps are proposed to be taken in the coming years to make use of these new technologies; and

(d) what are the details of the plan allocations for the renewable sources of energy for the years 1985-86 to 1987-88 year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) It is proposed to increase the widespread utilisation of technologies, systems and devices which are mature and usable on a mass scale such as biogas plants, improved smokeless chulhas, solar thermal energy applications, wind power, biomass power, solar photovoltaics for small power uses especially in remote areas etc; to intensify research and development in these as well as other areas to bring newer technologies to the stage of commercial viabllity; to instal increasing capacity of power and heat production sources and system based on renewable sources of energy particularly in the rural areas and to increasingly energise the villages using combinations of locally available renewable sources of energy. The pace of this expansion will depend on the financial allocations made for this area.

(d) The plan allocations for non-conventional energy sources for the years 1985-86 to 1987-88 are as follows:—

	(Rs. crores)
1985-86	119·35
1986-87	125·00
1987-88	100·00